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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/056,973	01/25/2002	Tominari Araki	020611	3883
38834 7590 05/17/2007 WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			EXAMINER DICUS, TAMRA	
			ART UNIT 1774	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 05/17/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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10056973	1/25/2002	ARAKI ET AL.	020611

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**EXAMINER**

Tamra L.. Dicus

ART UNIT	PAPER
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1774

20070508

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Commissioner for Patents

Art Unit: 1774

***Reply Brief Noted***


The reply brief filed March 22, 2007 has been entered and considered. No further comment from the Examiner is deemed necessary. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tamra L. Dicus whose telephone number is 571-272-1519. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:00-4:30 p.m., alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye can be reached on 571-272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
Tamra L. Dicus  
Examiner  
Art Unit 1774

May 8, 2007

  
RENA DYE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
AU 1774